

REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing, reexamination and further and favorable consideration of the subject application in light of the following remarks, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, are respectfully requested.

I. Amendments to the Claims

By the foregoing amendment, independent claim 7 has been amended without prejudice or disclaimer to delete recitation of “a protecting group.” Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation and/or divisional applications directed to any canceled subject matter. Dependent claims 8-10 have also been amended for grammatical purposes, and so as to be consistent with the other pending depending claims, to add a comma after the claim number. No new matter has been added.

II. Substance of Interview Statement

Applicants submit that the Interview Summary, issued with the Office Action on January 7, 2011, accurately reflects the substance of the Examiner-initiated interview conducted on December 30, 2010.

III. Response to Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Examiner has rejected claims 7-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as purportedly being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. *See OFFICE ACTION at 3-4.*

This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, to expedite prosecution in the present application, and not to acquiesce to the merits of this rejection, independent claim 7 has been amended to delete recitation of “a protecting group.” The Examiner indicated during the telephonic discussion, and as reflected in the Interview Summary, that addressing this matter by cancelation of the “protecting group” terminology “could be addressed in an

after-final amendment. In view of the above, withdrawal of the Examiner's rejection is respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance is believed to be next in order. Such action is earnestly solicited.

In the event that there are any questions related to this Amendment and Reply, or the application in general, it would be appreciated if the Examiner would telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed telephone number concerning such questions so that prosecution of this application may be expedited.

Respectfully submitted,

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